

In the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following paragraph:

[0002] This application is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/339,479, filed on June 24, 1999, which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,862,571. This invention pertains to the art of processes for linking an information database with an insurance application, and more particularly to the process of linking credentialing information with a medical malpractice insurance application.

[0008] CompHealth, a licensed CVO in the United States, has developed a new web-based credentialing service, moving as much of the process online as possible. One of the keys to the credentialing service is an Internet application called Apply.net. Medical professionals can use the Apply.net application to submit their information to CompHealth via the Internet. However, there is currently in the art no known connection between the credentialing services, the credentialing information, and the property and casualty insurance industry.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following paragraph:

[0022] The inventive process is designed to link credentialing information with a medical malpractice insurance application. The credentialing information, which the regulatory agencies require of health professionals, can be compiled for each physician by a credentials verification organization (CVO). ~~The credentialing information, however, can be gathered by any entity~~

~~licensed to do so.~~ The CVO typically obtains and/or verifies required information about each physician, including, a valid and current license, clinical privileges at a hospital, valid DEA or CDS certificates, appropriate education and training (i.e., graduation from an approved medical school and completion of an appropriate residency or specialty program), board certification, appropriate work history, malpractice insurance, and a history of liability claims. This information is used by healthcare entities to ensure the public that it is receiving adequate care from a qualified medical professional. What is to be especially noted is that the information gathered by the CVO is virtually identical to the information required to underwrite a medical malpractice insurance policy.